



Serial No.: 09/762035
Confirmation No.: 7442
Applicant: SAWDON et al.
Atty. Ref.: 11836.0695.PCUS00

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Previously Presented) A wellbore fluid comprising a substantially water non-soluble particulate material that is degradable under acidic conditions and composed of the reaction product of A) one or more water soluble organic compound having possessing a molecular weight of less than 30,000 and possessing at least two hydroxyl groups and B) any other organic compound(s) capable of forming acetal or hemiacetal cross-links with the hydroxyl groups of compound A.

2.(Currently Amended) The wellbore fluid of claim 1 wherein hydroxyl compound (A) is selected from the class ~~including the group consisting of:~~ monosaccharides, oligosaccharides, polysaccharides of molecular weight less than 30,000, glycerol, polyglycerols, erythritol, pentaerythritol, mannitol, sorbitol, glycols, polyalkylene glycols, and low molecular weight water soluble vinyl polymers possessing hydroxyl groups.

3. (Currently Amended)The wellbore fluid according to claim 1 or 2, wherein compound (B) is selected from the class ~~including the group consisting of:~~ aliphatic aldehydes and dialdehydes having from 2 to 10 carbon atoms, and esters of propiolic acid wherein the alcohol forming the ester has from 1 to 8 carbon atoms.

4. (Previously Presented) The wellbore fluid according to any of the preceding claim, wherein 0.5-15%, dry weight of compound (B) and 95.5-85% of said compound (A) is reacted.

5. (Previously Presented) The wellbore fluid according to claim 1 wherein the substantially water non-soluble particulate material is the reaction product of dextrin and pentanediol.

6. (Currently Amended) A process of drilling, under-reaming, completing, working over, sealing loss zones, sealing fractures, sealing cavities or other very high permeability conduits in a rock formation, or hydraulic fracturing to stimulate a hydrocarbon-producing zone comprising using the fluid of claim 1 a wellbore fluid including a substantially water non-soluble particulate material that is degradable under acidic conditions and composed of the reaction



Serial No.: 09/762035

Confirmation No.: 7442

Applicant: SAWDON et al.

Atty. Ref.: 11836.0695.PCUS00

product of A) one or more water soluble organic compound having possessing a molecular weight of less than 30,000 and possessing at least two hydroxyl groups and B) any other organic compound(s) capable of forming acetal or hemiacetal cross-links with the hydroxyl groups of compound A.

7. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 6 further comprising pumping a low pH fluid containing any acid or buffered solution of less than pH 6.0 into the producing zone segment of the wellbore to catalyse the decomposition of the particulate material of this invention.

8. (Previously Presented) The process of claims 6 or 7, further comprising allowing the well to flow, causing a drop in pH, which catalyses the decomposition of the substantially water non-soluble particulate material, permitting increased flow of produced fluids.